

**Mid America Investment Board  
Executive Committee Meeting  
(Zoom)  
June 21, 2023**

**Present:**

Rich Sauget, Jr.  
Ken Keeney  
Donna Richter  
Tony White

**Staff:**

Rick Stubblefield  
Lee Reese  
Linda Vanderpluym  
Cindy Layman

Chairman Rich Sauget Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. After hearing no public comment regarding the agenda, Chairman Sauget handed the meeting over to Lee Reese to highlight some of the items posed for the consent agenda.

Item 1. was regarding the Local Supportive Services Policy. The policy is being revised at the recommendation of DCEO to accommodate travel reimbursement in rural areas with proper documentation.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> item was the request to approve the partner negotiated One-Stop MOU, the letter of changes to One-Stop MOU, and partner negotiated One-Stop operating budget.

Item 3 was a request to approve a contract with Soucial Kitchen for 14 registered food truck apprentices. The contract amount is up to \$211,400.

Item 4 is a request to approve a Class-Size Training contract with Midwest Career Source Vocational School in the amount of \$400,000. Midwest Career Source has been successful in establishing relationships with area healthcare facilities and has a high success rate in completion of those they have trained. There is a state policy in place that allows for this kind of contract. BJC is desiring to hire those that complete the classroom training.

Tony White inquired where the 14 apprentices for Soucial Kitchen would be coming from. Rick responded that recruitment efforts were a combination of Soucial Kitchen and Workforce Development Group. Tony also asked if the food trucks would remain a part of Soucial Kitchen or if once apprenticeship was completed the individual would be on their own. It was shared that the primary goal would be to keep the food trucks under Soucial Kitchen but opportunities would most likely be extended for individuals to own the truck themselves. Lee added that the intent of training this particular group is to have them be supervisors/mentors of a food truck academy that is being developed. Ken Keeney followed up with a question of whether the apprentices would all be Soucial Kitchen employees or were they being trained for other entities. Lee responded that they would be Soucial Kitchen employees only.

After no additional questions, Rick transitioned to Item 5, transferring funds from 1D (Dislocated Worker) to 1A (Adult). This is allowed under the Governor's waiver. Historically, the Board has been

asked to approve such a transfer due to a smaller demand for Dislocated Worker assistance versus Adult. This request is being posed so that if there is a need to do so between Board meetings, we can move forward. The amount or percentage to be moved is not being established because under the Governor's waiver, it is allowed to move 100%, however a need to go to that level is not likely needed. Tony asked if we could set our own percentage. Rick responded that that was a possibility. We are requesting the potential to move 100% but the intent is not to do so. It was also expressed that if the Executive Committee desired to table this for time to consider that there was not a pending deadline. Rich commented that he didn't have an issue with this request with the stipulation that funding in 1D be maintained as long as possible in the event of an emergency. Rick agreed and mentioned that the desire is to spend as much 1D funding on Dislocated Workers as possible but in the past the numbers served has been far exceeded by the number of those served or needed to be served through Adult. Rich shared the opinion that he was in favor of granting the flexibility, if everyone else was in agreement.

Cindy Layman presented item 6, an Incumbent Worker Training proposal for St. Clair County Health Department. The Health Department desires to train an employee in Medical Billing and Coding to work more efficiently in the services they provide. Their funding doesn't permit paying for this kind of training. With the funding for the IWT project the tuition, books, and fees for CALC's Medical Office Specialist would be reimbursed.

Item 7 on the consent agenda pertained to SWIC's budget for the Youth Program. It was reported that SWIC is going to be approximately \$15,000 short of spending their portion of the Youth contract. Due to personnel issues, not as much money was spent on that line item as projected. It was requested to move some of that money to direct services. According to Rick, this was more for informational purposes than needing an approval vote from the Board. It was desired to keep the Board aware of what was transpiring. The contract amount is not changing, and they do not have to take this to their Board for approval.

It was noted that now that COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, it is necessary to return to in-person MAWIB meetings. Previously, meetings were held at Our Lady of the Snows, but meeting facilities are no longer available. Lee stated he is coordinating for the meetings to be held at the One-Stop. Committee meetings are also required to return to in-person so meeting locations will need to be established. A potential location is the St. Clair County Housing Authority. Donna Richter also offered space at the Southern Illinois Builders' Association.

Cindy asked that an 8<sup>th</sup> item be added to the consent agenda to approve CODE100 training program for Workforce Technology and Training d.b.a New Horizons. They are referring a student for potential WIOA funding. The State Demand Occupation list indicates positions available in this occupation is a 3 out of 6.

With no other items being presented, Rich entertained a motion to approve consent agenda items 1 - 8. Donna made the motion to approve consent agenda items 1 – 8 and it was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.